



# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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May 20, 2011

To: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky  
Supervisor Don Knabe

From: William T Fujioka  
Chief Executive Officer

## **EFFICIENCY INITIATIVE TO FACILITATE TIMELINESS IN THE COUNTYWIDE CONTRACTING PROTEST PROCESS**

This is to advise your Board that we plan to improve the timeliness of the countywide contracting protest process by using retired County managers and staff, with contracting expertise, to serve as County Review ("Protest") Panel members.

As a County Strategic Plan initiative, a working group is reviewing areas where County contracting processes can be streamlined. As part of this effort, the working group examined the Protest Panel recruitment process. Under the current process, an established pool of departmental contracting managers and staff are solicited to participate, on an *ad hoc* basis, whenever there is a need to convene a County Protest Panel. However, due to departmental contracting priorities and workloads, it can be difficult to recruit panel members at busy times of the year. As a result, additional time and resources are required to recruit Protest Panel members. This delays the scheduling of contractor protests and ultimate Board approval.

To address this situation, we plan to create a pool of retired County managers and staff with contracting expertise to serve as panel members. This will reduce the time to recruit participants and schedule panel meetings in response to contractor protests. The County departments that are the subject of the contractor protest(s) will incur the limited costs associated with the time spent by retirees in the Protest Panel process. We plan to implement this adjustment in the County Protest process beginning June 1, 2011.

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"*

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If you have any questions regarding this efficiency initiative, please contact Ellen Sandt of my staff at (213) 974-1186, or Tom Tindall at ISD, at (323) 267-2101.

WTF:EFS  
TT:JJ:ef

c:     Executive Office, Board of Supervisors  
         County Counsel  
         Internal Services